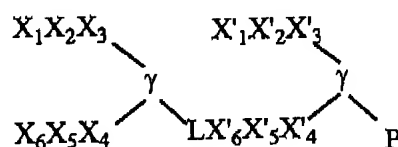


## IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace claims 16-19 and 27-38 with the following amended claims. Marked-up versions of these claims are attached hereto as Appendix A.

16. (Twice amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



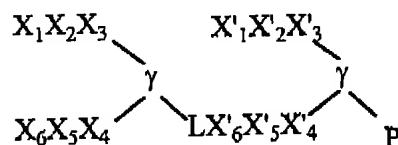
wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

$X_1/X_6$ ,  $X_2/X_5$ ,  $X_3/X_4$ ,  $X'_1/X'_6$ ,  $X'_2/X'_5$ , and  $X'_3/X'_4$  represent six carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and

wherein P represents zero to eight polyamides of claim 1.

17. (Twice amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:

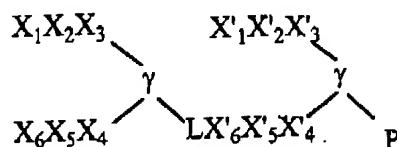


wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

$X_1/X_6$ ,  $X_2/X_5$ ,  $X_3/X_4$ ,  $X'_1/X'_6$ ,  $X'_2/X'_5$ , and  $X'_3/X'_4$  represent six carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

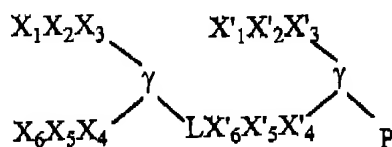
L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and

18. (Twice amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



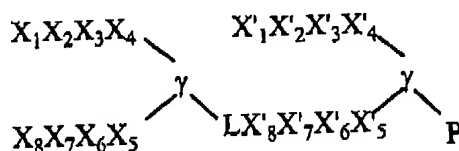
wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;  
 $X_1/X_6$ ,  $X_2/X_5$ ,  $X_3/X_4$ ,  $X'_1/X'_6$ ,  $X'_2/X'_5$ , and  $X'_3/X'_4$  represent six carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;  
 L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and  
 wherein P represents zero to four polyamides of claim 1.

19. (Twice amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;  
 $X_1/X_6$ ,  $X_2/X_5$ ,  $X_3/X_4$ ,  $X'_1/X'_6$ ,  $X'_2/X'_5$ , and  $X'_3/X'_4$  represent six carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;  
 L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and  
 wherein P represents zero to two polyamides of claim 1.

27. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



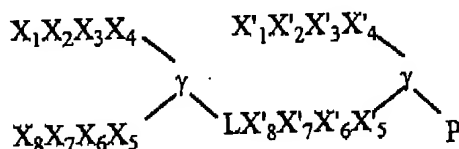
wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

$X_1/X_8$ ,  $X_2/X_7$ ,  $X_3/X_6$ ,  $X_4/X_5$ ,  $X'_1/X'_8$ ,  $X'_2/X'_7$ ,  $X'_3/X'_6$ , and  $X'_4/X'_5$  represent eight carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ), and

wherein P represents zero to eight polyamides of claim 1.

28. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

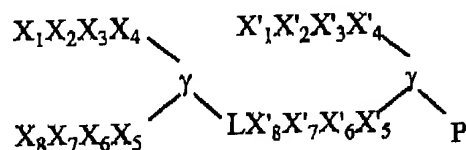
$X_1/X_8$ ,  $X_2/X_7$ ,  $X_3/X_6$ ,  $X_4/X_5$ ,  $X'_1/X'_8$ ,  $X'_2/X'_7$ ,  $X'_3/X'_6$ , and  $X'_4/X'_5$  represent eight carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ), and

wherein P represents zero to six polyamides of claim 1.

29. (Amended)

A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

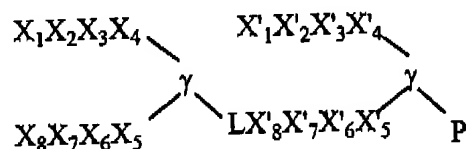
$X_1/X_8$ ,  $X_2/X_7$ ,  $X_3/X_6$ ,  $X_4/X_5$ ,  $X'_1/X'_8$ ,  $X'_2/X'_7$ ,  $X'_3/X'_6$ , and  $X'_4/X'_5$  represent eight carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ), and

wherein P represents zero to four polyamides of claim 1.

30. (Amended)

A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



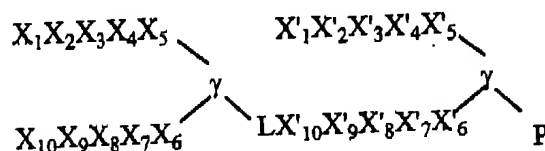
wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

$X_1/X_8$ ,  $X_2/X_7$ ,  $X_3/X_6$ ,  $X_4/X_5$ ,  $X'_1/X'_8$ ,  $X'_2/X'_7$ ,  $X'_3/X'_6$ , and  $X'_4/X'_5$  represent eight carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ), and

wherein P represents zero to two polyamides of claim 1.

31. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



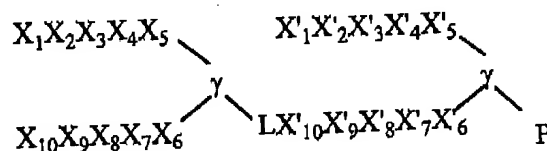
wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

$X_1/X_{10}$ ,  $X_2/X_9$ ,  $X_3/X_8$ ,  $X_4/X_7$ ,  $X_5/X_6$ ,  $X'_1/X'_{10}$ ,  $X'_2/X'_9$ ,  $X'_3/X'_8$ ,  $X'_4/X'_7$ , and  $X'_5/X'_6$  represent ten carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and

wherein P represents zero to eight polyamides of claim 1.

32. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



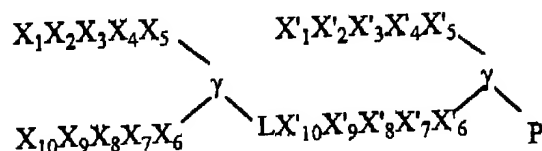
wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

$X_1/X_{10}$ ,  $X_2/X_9$ ,  $X_3/X_8$ ,  $X_4/X_7$ ,  $X_5/X_6$ ,  $X'_1/X'_{10}$ ,  $X'_2/X'_9$ ,  $X'_3/X'_8$ ,  $X'_4/X'_7$ , and  $X'_5/X'_6$  represent ten carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and

wherein P represents zero to six polyamides of claim 1.

33. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



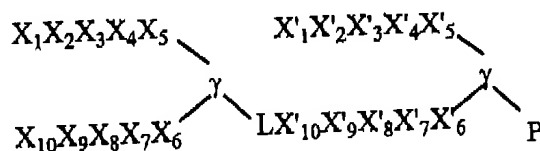
wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

$X_1/X_{10}$ ,  $X_2/X_9$ ,  $X_3/X_8$ ,  $X_4/X_7$ ,  $X_5/X_6$ ,  $X'_1/X'_{10}$ ,  $X'_2/X'_9$ ,  $X'_3/X'_8$ ,  $X'_4/X'_7$ , and  $X'_5/X'_6$  represent ten carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and

wherein P represents zero to four polyamides of claim 1.

34. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



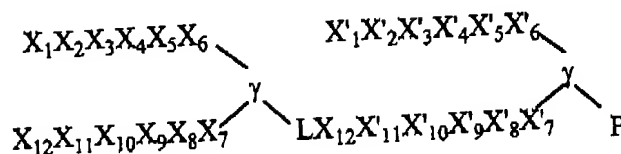
wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

$X_1/X_{10}$ ,  $X_2/X_9$ ,  $X_3/X_8$ ,  $X_4/X_7$ ,  $X_5/X_6$ ,  $X'_1/X'_{10}$ ,  $X'_2/X'_9$ ,  $X'_3/X'_8$ ,  $X'_4/X'_7$ , and  $X'_5/X'_6$  represent ten carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and

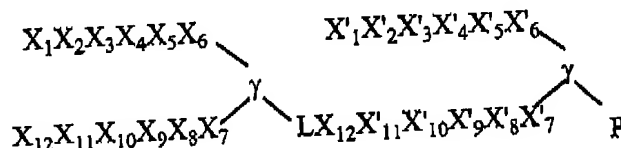
wherein P represents zero to two polyamides of claim 1.

35. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



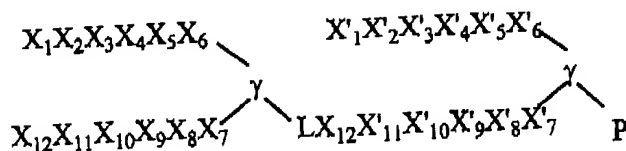
wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;  
 $X_1/X_{12}$ ,  $X_2/X_{11}$ ,  $X_3/X_{10}$ ,  $X_4/X_9$ ,  $X_5/X_8$ ,  $X_6/X_7$ ,  $X'_1/X'_{12}$ ,  $X'_2/X'_{11}$ ,  $X'_3/X'_{10}$ ,  $X'_4/X'_9$ ,  $X'_5/X'_8$   
and  $X'_6/X'_7$  represent twelve carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs  
wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are)  
selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA  
base pair in the minor groove to be bound;  
L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine  
and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and  
wherein P represents zero to eight polyamides of claim 1.

36. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;  
 $X_1/X_{12}$ ,  $X_2/X_{11}$ ,  $X_3/X_{10}$ ,  $X_4/X_9$ ,  $X_5/X_8$ ,  $X_6/X_7$ ,  $X'_1/X'_{12}$ ,  $X'_2/X'_{11}$ ,  $X'_3/X'_{10}$ ,  $X'_4/X'_9$ ,  $X'_5/X'_8$ ,  
 $X'_6/X'_7$  represent twelve carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs  
 wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are)  
 selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA  
 base pair in the minor groove to be bound;  
 L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine  
 and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and  
 wherein P represents zero to six polyamides of claim 1.

37. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



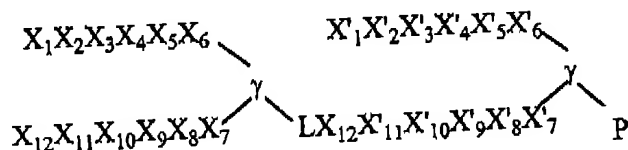
wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral napthyl linkage consisting of  $X_1/X_{12}$ ,  $X_2/X_{11}$ ,  $X_3/X_{10}$ ,  $X_4/X_9$ ,  $X_5/X_8$ ,  $X_6/X_7$ ,  $X'_1/X'_{12}$ ,  $X'_2/X'_{11}$ ,  $X'_3/X'_{10}$ ,  $X'_4/X'_9$ ,  $X'_5/X'_8$  and  $X'_6/X'_7$  represent twelve carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and

wherein P represents zero to four polyamides of claim 1.

38. (Amended) A tandem-linked polyamide of claim 1 having the formula:



wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from R-2,4-diaminobutyric acid;

wherein  $\gamma$  is a chiral hairpin linkage derived from 1,2- $\gamma$ -benzylidene-3,4-dihydroxybutane-1,2-diol,  $X_1/X_{12}$ ,  $X_2/X_{11}$ ,  $X_3/X_{10}$ ,  $X_4/X_9$ ,  $X_5/X_8$ ,  $X_6/X_7$ ,  $X'_1/X'_{12}$ ,  $X'_2/X'_{11}$ ,  $X'_3/X'_{10}$ ,  $X'_4/X'_9$ ,  $X'_5/X'_8$  and  $X'_6/X'_7$  represent twelve carboxamide binding pairs which bind DNA base pairs wherein at least one binding pair is Hp/Py or Py/Hp and the other binding pair(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of Py/Im, Im/Py, and Py/Py to correspond to the DNA base pair in the minor groove to be bound;

L represents an amino acid linking group selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -alanine and 5-aminovaleric acid ( $\delta$ ); and

wherein P represents zero to two polyamides of claim 1.